

## Message Text

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22/10

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

SAM-01 OMB-01 /062 W

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R 201400Z JAN 76

FM AMCONSUL TRIESTE

TO SECSTATE 0466

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIESTE 00011

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MRN 00011 VICE 00264)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT IT

SUBJECT:PREPARATIONS FOR REGIONAL CONGRESSES

1. SUMMARY. CONFUSION IN THE RANKS OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS AND SOCIALISTS WITH EVIDENCE OF CONSIDERABLE DISAFFECTION AMONG THE LATTER OVER THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP'S DECISION TO PROVIKE A POLITICLA CRISIS ARE THE DOMINANT IMPRESSIONS AT THIS STAGE OF PRE-PARATIONS FOR DC AND PSI REGIONAL PARTY CONGRESSES. END SUMMARY.

2. TALKS WITH DC AND PSI PARTY LEADERS, GIORNALISTS, AND OTHER OBSERVERS IN RECENT DAYS HAVE GIVEN A PICTURE OF CONFLICTING AND FAR FROM RESOLVED PRESSURES WITHIN EACH OF THE PARTIES. DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE DC LEFT (MOROTEI, FORZE NUOVE, BASE), WHICH REPRESENTS ABOUT 75PCT OF PART STRENGTH IN FRIULI-VENEZIA GIULIA, HAS PUT FORWARD A JOINT LIST OF DELEGATES TO THE REGIONAL

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CONGRESS IN EACH OF THE FOUR PROVINCES, THERE IS AMPLE EVIDENCE THAT THIS FAÇADE OF UNITY CONCEALS SUBSTANTIAL DISAGREEMENT WITHIN AND BETWEEN VARIOUS FACTIONS. THE QTE ZACCAGNINI LINE UNQTE WHICH IS THE NOMINAL RALLYING POINT OF THE DC LEFT IS, BY GENERAL ADMISSION, AMBIGUOUS ENOUGH TO ALLOW A VARIETY OF CONFLICTING INTERPRETATIONS, PARTICULARLY ON THE KEY ISSUE OF CONFIDENTIAL

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RELATIONS WITHE THE PCI. THIS HAS ALREADY LED TO SHARP POLEMICS

BETWEEN VARIOUS EXPONENTS OF THE DC LEFT AT SOME RECENT PARTY GATHERINGS. ANOTHER INDICATION OF THE LACK OF A COMMON APPROACH IS THE CRITICISM LEVELED PRIVATELY BY, AMONG OTHERS, THE DC PROVINCIAL SECRETARY IN GORIZIA (MOROTEO) AGAINST THE DC LEADERSHIP IN TRIESTE (ALSO MOROTEO) FOR ITS ALLEGED READINISS TO EMBRACE DISGUISED FORMS OF THE HISTORIC COMPROMISE.

3. NOT EVEN A FACADE OF UNITY IS BEING MAINTAINED BY THE QTE MODERATE UNQTE FORCES OF THE DC, WHICH WERE ABLE TO PRESENT A SINGLE COMPETING LIST ONLY IN UDINE PROVINCE. IN PODENONE THE LEADER OF THE DOROTEAO GROUP, SENATOR MONTINI, HAS OPTED OUT OF THE PRE-CONGRESS COMPETITION BY NEITHER SUBSCRIBNG TO THE UNITARY LIST NOR PRESENTING A COMPETING LIST. IN GORIZIA AND TRIESTE OPPOSITION TO THE QTE ZACCAGNINI LINE UNQTE WAS SPLIT

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IN TWO AND THREE LISTS, RESPECTIVELY.

4. THERE IS ALSO CONSIDERABLE INDICATION THAT, NOTWITHSTANDING THE BROAD ADHERENCE TO HIS QTE LINE UNQTE, ZACCAGNINIS PERSONAL STATNIDNG IS FAR LESS SECURE IN THIS REGION THAN HAD PREVIOUSLY SEEMED THE CASE. SEVERAL LEADERS OF THE DC LEFT, INCLUDING THE PROVINCIAL XECRETARIESIN GORIZIAL AND PORDENONE HAVE SAID PRIVATELY THAT ZACCAGNINI QTE LACKS WHAT IT TAKES UNQTE TO BE DC SECRETARY. HOWEVER THEY PERCEIVE A REAL DILEMMA IN HIS REMOVAL SINCE HE HAS SUCCEEDED IN WINNING A DEGREE OF EMOTIONAL SUPPORT, AS A SYMBOL OF A MORE DECENT PARTY, THAT HAS GIVEN THE DC A BADLY-NEEDED SHOT IN THE ARM.

5. INTRA-PARTY SUSPICIONS IN THE DC ARE GEING FED BY RUMORS OF A SECRET DEAL BETWEEN ANDREOTTI AND THE SOCIALISTS, AIMED AGAINST MORO. ACCORDING TO A GIORNALIST WHO SPOKE TO THE PROVINCIAL SECRETARY OF THE PCI IN TRIESTE THE ALLEGED DEAL ALSO HAS THE TACIT BLESSING OF THE COMMUNISTS. ONE DC SOURCE ATTRIBUTED THE ALLEGED ANDREOTTI MOVE TO AN ATTEMPT TO PREVENT MORO FROM ENTERING THE PARTY CONGRESS IN CONTROL OF BOTH THE PARTY (THROUGH ZACCAGNINI) AND THE GOVERNMENT, BUT TERMED THE MANUEVER QTE EXTREMELY DANGEROUS UNQTE. A PSI SOURCE INDICATED THAT THERE

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WAS CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE OF SUCH A DEAL, AND MUCH OF THE PSI DID VIEW MORO AS ENEMY NUMBER ONE, BUT HIS DIRECT INQUIRIES IN ROME HAD FAILED TO PRODUCE CONFIRMATION.

6. WHILE THE DC IS IN DISARRAY LARGE SEGMENTS OF THE PSI IN THIS REGION ARE IN BARELY VEILED OPPOSITION TO THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP'S CURRENT TACTICS. ACCORDING TO THE PSI PORVINCIAL SECRETARY IN PORDENONE THE ABRUPT DECISION TO PROVIKE A CRISIS HAS THROWN THE

PARTY INTO CINFUSION, WITH A MAJORITY OF PARTY MEMBERS IN HIS FEDERATION ANGRY AND BEWILDERED. HE REJECTED THE THEORY THAT DE MARTINO HAD BEEN FORCED BY GRASS-TOOTS PRESSURE IN THE PARTY TO OPEN THE CRISIS, STATING THAT IN NORTHERN ITALY, TO HIS KNOWLEDGE, ONLY THE MILAN FEDERATION HAD FAVORED AN IMMEDIATE CRISIS. HE NOTED, WITH SOME BITTERNESS, THAT MONTHS OF PREPARATORY WORK FOR THE CONGRESS WAS NOW WASTED SINCE THE CONGRESS WOULD BE DOMINATED BY THE IMMEDIATE ISSUE OF THE CRISIS AND WOULD FAIL TO PRODUCE THE URGENTLY NEED CLARIFICATION OF BASIS PARTY STRATEGY AND GOALS.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL PARTIES, PARTY MEETINGS, PARTY DISSENSION, PARTY FACTIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** vogelfj  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976TRIEST00011  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** vogelfj  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <30 APR 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <24 AUG 2004 by vogelfj>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REPARATIONS FOR REGIONAL CONGRESSES  
**TAGS:** PINT, IT, DC, PSI  
**To:** STATE ROME  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006